

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently amended). A method of inhibiting an infection, comprising administering to the gastrointestinal tract of an animal ~~contacting an infected site with~~ a composition comprising an isolated *Bacillus* strain, wherein said strain produces more lysine aminopeptidase than *Bacillus coagulans* Hammer strain ATCC No. 31284 ~~the composition of claim 1.~~

B1
26. (Currently amended). A method of inhibiting an infection, comprising administering to the gastrointestinal tract of an animal ~~contacting an infected site with~~ a composition comprising an isolated *Bacillus* strain, wherein said strain is selected from the group consisting of *Bacillus coagulans* GBI-1, *Bacillus coagulans* GBI-20, *Bacillus coagulans* GBI-30 and *Bacillus coagulans* GBI-40, or a combination thereof ~~contacting an infected site with a *Bacillus coagulans* composition.~~

27-28. (Cancelled).

B2
29. (Original). The method of claim 26, wherein said composition comprises a viable vegetative bacterial cell.

30. (Original). The method of claim 26, wherein said composition comprises a bacterial spore.

31-32. (Cancelled).

33. (Original). The method of claim 29, wherein said composition is administered at a dose of 1×10^2 to 1×10^{14} viable vegetative bacterial cells per day.

B3
34. (Original). The method of claim 30, wherein said composition is administered at a dose of 1×10^2 to 1×10^{14} spores per day.

35. (Currently amended). The method of claim 26, wherein said composition is administered orally, or buccally, ~~topically, vaginally, nasally, ocularly, or otically.~~

REMARKS